# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Image data read by an image read section and digitized is temporarily retained in an input buffer of a printer. A control section determines the contents of image processing

5    based on print setting specified from an instruction section and controls the compression and decompression timings of the image data in response to the image processing contents. To execute enlargement processing, the image data is compressed and stored, then enlarged; to execute reduction processing,

10   the image data is reduced, then compressed and stored, whereby the memory resources can be used effectively.